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C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 000852

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KPKO](#) [MASS](#) [MARR](#) [MZ](#)
SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE TO PARTICIPATE IN EXERCISE SHARED ACCORD

REF: A. MAPUTO 634
[B](#). MAPUTO 284
[C](#). 08 MAPUTO 1074

Classified By: Pol/Econ Chief Matthew Roth, Reasons 1.4(b+d)

[1](#). (C) Summary: On June 15, the Government of Mozambique (GRM) formally notified Post of its intention to participate in Exercise Shared Accord 2010 (ESA), a large-scale, U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM), bilateral training exercise designed to enhance multi-national peacekeeping operations (PKO) readiness which is scheduled to occur between July and September 2010.

STATE AND DOD JOINTLY ENCOURAGE GRM COMMITMENT

[1](#)2. (C) Foreign Minister Oldemiro Baloi confirmed Mozambique's intention to participate in ESA by diplomatic note received on June 15. The GRM's decision represented the culmination of several months, effort by Post, and included the personal intervention of AFRICOM Commander "Kip" Ward. During his mid-May visit to Maputo, the Commander discussed Mozambique's involvement in PKO with President Armando Guebuza, Minister of Defense Filipe Nyussi, and other senior staff members. They confirmed Mozambique's desire to participate, but expressed concerns about a lack of training and equipment. General Ward offered ESA as assistance, and encouraged the GRM to identify a specific PKO mission in which to take part.

SUBSTANTIAL PRIOR USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT

[1](#)3. (C) The FADM have benefited from extensive USG military training and assistance. The African Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ACOTA) program provided \$3 million in pre-deployment training, plus an additional \$3.5 million in equipment, to 3 battalions, approximately 1,200 participants. The FADM have not taken part in PKO since the UN 2005 operations in Burundi. Since the GRM's September 2008 letter to the Secretary General expressing a desire to participate further, Post and AFRICOM have redoubled efforts to improve the FADM's readiness and capabilities.

A BATTALION-LEVEL, 30-DAY PKO EXERCISE

[1](#)4. (C) ESA is the latest and most significant USG offer of assistance to Mozambique. This event is a battalion-level training exercise designed to develop the military expertise required to participate effectively in PKO, both at the staff unit and individual level. Staff skills acquired are directly applicable to deploying a unit to participate in PKO. The exercise will last approximately thirty days and is

scheduled to occur between July and September 2010 in order to accommodate the anticipated local impact of the World Cup in South Africa.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PLANNED

15. (C) In August 2009, two mobile field kitchens costing approximately \$150,000 and funded by Foreign Military Financing will arrive in country. Next month, ACOTA will send a team to provide two weeks of instructor training to the FADM, recertifying those who received training in 2007. The initial ESA planning conference will occur in September, to be followed over the next 12 months by a series of 4 more planning conferences.

COMMENT: TIME FOR GRM TO STEP UP TO PKO

16. (C) Completion of ESA will represent a significant step toward creating a Mozambican military unit capable of participating in PKO. After completion, it will be incumbent on the GRM to select a future PKO mission. ESA will also reinforce Mil-Mil ties between the GRM and the USG and may open the door to increased cooperation, particularly in joint maritime security efforts to combat narco-trafficking.
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